

VZCZCXRO1955

OO RUEHAO RUEHCD RUEHGA RUEHGD RUEHGR RUEHHA RUEHHO RUEHMC RUEHMT  
RUEHNG RUEHNL RUEHQU RUEHRD RUEHRG RUEHRS RUEHTM RUEHVC  
DE RUEHTG #0742 2252010  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 132010Z AUG 09 ZDK  
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0422  
INFO RUEHWH/WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS IMMEDIATE  
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE 0527  
RUEAHND/COMJTF-B SOTO CANO HO IMMEDIATE  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUMIAAA/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE  
RUEAHND/CDRJTFB SOTO CANO HO IMMEDIATE  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RULGPSU/COMSOC SOUTH IMMEDIATE  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEIDN/DNI WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUMIAAA/USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 000742

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [MOPS](#) [PGOV](#) [KDEM](#) [MASS](#) [EAID](#) [HO](#)

SUBJECT: TFH01: HONDURAN PEACEKEEPING FORCES RETURN BEFORE  
UNIFIL DEPLOYMENT

¶1. (SBU) Spain canceled its arrangement to include a Honduran unit in its contribution to UNIFIL in Lebanon and returned it to Honduras from Spain, as a strong sign of its rejection of the June 28 coup against President Zelaya. The 51-member Honduran peacekeeping (PKO) force had been undergoing two months of pre-deployment training in Spain; it was returned to Honduras August 10 prior to their planned UNIFIL mission in Lebanon. The PKO force was to serve under Spanish military command and control during their Lebanon deployment pursuant to a Honduran-Spanish bilateral agreement. The Honduran PKO unit had received training and equipment funded by the USG as part of the Global Peacekeeping Operations Initiative.

¶2. (SBU) The repatriation is another strong signal to the de facto regime of international opposition to the coup, and that Honduras' relationship with its international partners has been damaged as a result. The deployment of the PKO unit, based on a March 2009 technical agreement between the governments of Spain and Honduras, was considered a significant and prestigious accomplishment for the HOAF and Honduras, a sign of a successful effort to transform the HOAF into a 21st century - capable force prepared to serve present needs and promote peace and security.  
LLORENS